

May 12, 2008

Secretary Rosario Marin State and Consumer Services Chair, California Building Standards Commission 2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130 Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Secretary Marin:

The California Hospital Association (CHA) represents nearly 450 hospitals and health systems in California. CHA supports the Express Terms for Proposed Building Standards of the Office of the State Fire Marshal regarding the 2007 California Fire Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9. Many of California's health systems have laboratories for research and biotechnology activities. The proposed L-Occupancy establishes quality controls and safety requirements for laboratories handling hazardous materials

The proposed L-Occupancy ensures that all laboratories are built with consistency to the same standards. For the above reasons CHA supports the adoption of the L-Occupancy Standards.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 552-7570 or email: rrichter@calhospital.org.

Sincerely,

Roger Richter

Sr. V.P. Professional Services

Mogen Wickter

California Hospital Association (CHA)

Cc: Kevin Reinertson

Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal

Office of the State Fire Marshal